

Attorney Docket No. 030441

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of)

Philip Hawkes et al)

Serial No. 10/615,882)

Filed: July 8, 2003)

For: Method And Apparatus for Security
in a Data Processing System

) Group No.

REQUEST FOR CORRECTION OF FILING DATE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Attn: OFFICE OF INITIAL PATENT EXAMINATION'S CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTER

Dear Sir:

Upon review of the Official Filing Receipt, an error in the filing date as listed thereon was noted. Applicants request that this error be corrected and that a new Official Filing Receipt be issued.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on:

March 26, 2004

(Date of Deposit)

Courtney Etnyre

(Name of the Person Making Deposit)

(Signature)

Applicants believe that the error may have been caused in view of the preliminary amendment (hereinafter Amendment) filed on January 28, 2004. In the Amendment, Applicants requested addition of Figure 4. As the figure is fully supported by the specification, the request was to amend the drawings under 37 CFR 1.115. However, the Amendment may have been deemed as an omitted item of the specification.

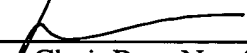
Applicants respectfully submit that Figure 4 is not necessary to for the understanding of the invention. Because Figure 4 is not necessary, Applicants have not responded to the Notice To File Missing Parts of Non-Provisional Application dated November 7, 2003 within the two month response period, thereby electing option (III) which is to accept the application as deposited in the USPTO on July 8, 2003. Therefore, the lack of Figure 4 does not render the application incomplete.

Accordingly, if the Amendment adds new matter, Applicants request that the Examiner disapprove and not enter the amendment, or give an objection to the amendment under 35 U.S.C. 132 and require that the new matter be cancelled. However, Applicants submit that the Amendment is not a submission of an omitted item. The Amendment should not give rise to a new filing date.

As a result, Applicants respectfully request that the noted error in the filing date of the application be corrected and a new Official Filing Receipt be issued to Applicants.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 26, 2004

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